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like restaurants without putting their health at risk? To that question I say also, yes, they have that right. And where people are not able to enforce their own rights, that is the legitimate role of government. That is the responsibility of government and that's why protecting the public health with a bill like this is so important. Another e-mail says smoking is the most...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...preventable cause of death in our society. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S., for both men and women. During 2005, more than 1,000 Nebraskans will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and approximately 950 will lose their lives to this disease. It is a disease. It is killing people. It is killing people and it could be prevented. People can individually make those lifestyle choices, but in cases where people's livelihood is dependent upon them working in some of these areas, we as a state have a responsibility to protect those workers, to protect the most vulnerable among us, and to prevent them from being exposed to what we and even the tobacco industry admits is a known carcinogen that kills people. This is a health...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Time.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...issue. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Thompson, you are recognized to speak.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. Senator Schrock reminded me of a conversation I had. My days and nights are running together, but was last night the night that we met with the women physicians? Two nights ago. Two nights ago. There was a woman at my table who had moved from California and she's doing research on pregnant women who smoke, and Senator Schrock's comment reminded me of her comment to me when he said that the standards that you set as a state for public health do play out into other areas. She said when she was doing the research in California she would ask her